

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 15-19 and 21 have been amended and claims 3, 9 and 11 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 15-19 and 21 are pending and under consideration.

No new matter is being presented, and approval of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-11, 15-19 AND 21 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY YOKONO ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,529,946)

Claims 3, 9 and 11 have been cancelled herein; however, features thereof have been incorporated into the independent claims. The rejections of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 15-19 and 21 are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

According to Yokono et al. (hereinafter "Yokono"), a user can purchase and register a disk, based on a serial number/medium number of the disk. When the user provides the disk to the downloading apparatus, the apparatus checks the disk serial number and the user identification. If the check is okay, the user is allowed to download requested content, which is then encoded on the disk. It is further apparent from Yokono that a unique ID of a medium is used for user authentication and charging.

In contrast, amended independent claim 1, for example, recites transmitting from a user an identifier having been given uniquely to an optional medium prepared by the user; storing contents as requested by the user in conjunction with the transmitted identifier in advance; reading from the optional medium prepared by the user; the identifier having been given uniquely to the optional medium prepared by the user; and extracting the stored contents, which have been stored in conjunction with the transmitted identifier, which is the same as the read identifier.

In other words, embodiments of the present invention are capable of both encrypting contents and recording them on a medium, as well as specifying the medium itself from the user terminal in advance by transmitting the identifier to the recording device. That is, embodiments of the present invention are capable of making a reservation through the execution device 1 by using a unique ID of a medium, given to the medium in advance. When the unique ID of the medium matches only the unique ID which has been reserved by the execution device 2, the contents can be downloaded from the recording device 1. As a result, according to embodiments of the present invention, it would not be necessary to authenticate a user himself.

(See, for example, page 8, lines 7-21, and Fig. 10(A) (S105), and accompanying written description, of the present application).

On page 11 of the Action, the Examiner notes that JP2000285591 is considered pertinent to applicants' disclosure, but not relied upon in rejecting the claims. Applicants note that JP2000285591 discusses encrypting contents with a unique ID of a medium and recording the contents on the medium. However, it is respectfully submitted that JP2000285591 fails to teach or suggest transmitting from a user an identifier having been given uniquely to an optional medium prepared by the user; storing contents as requested by the user in conjunction with the transmitted identifier in advance; reading from the optional medium prepared by the user; the identifier having been given uniquely to the optional medium prepared by the user; and extracting the stored contents, which have been stored in conjunction with the transmitted identifier, which is the same as the read identifier, as recited in amended independent claim 1, for example.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the cited references. The other pending independent claims recited similar features to independent claim 1 and, thus, for at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending independent claims, as well as the dependent claims, patentably distinguish over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. Further, all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

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If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: Michael P. Stanley
Michael P. Stanley
Registration No. 58,523

1201 New York Ave, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501